



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Harold Nelson  
*President*
- Peter Hronis  
*Vice-President*
- Nick Canata
- Anton Caratan
- Kelley Hampton

Dale Brogan  
*General Manager*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Dry Year Means Supply Prorate	1
Sign up for Special Purchase Water	2
Intra-District Water Transfers	3
Water Rates Set for 2007	3
Tracking Water Use On The Web	4

## 2007 WATER SUPPLY UPDATE—NOT GOOD

Little or no precipitation in the fall months followed by very wet winter and spring months has become a familiar pattern in recent years. However, 2007 is looking more and more as starting off dry and remaining that way.

### Dry Year In The Making

Current water supply forecasts recently released by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation projects the 2007 water supply at a dismal 50 percent of the total Class 1, with no Class 2 available. Class 1 is the “firm yield” of the project, which amounts to 800,000 acre-feet. The 2007 water year is projected to provide only 400,000 acre-feet, pretty anemic for the project, which on average delivers 1,400,000 acre-feet per year.

The big February storms were a welcome sight, but helped only to the extent that it brought February to near

normal levels. Unfortunately, that normal month was preceded by a very dry January and has been followed by a dry March, with no precipitation forecasted at least through the end of the month. All of these factors led to the Bureau’s latest forecast of 50 percent Class 1 water supply.

### Water Supply Prorate Set

In response to the current water supply conditions, the District Board of Directors set a water supply prorate for all eligible lands at 1.2 acre-feet per acre. The prorate was effective for all water deliveries made on or after February 5th and will continue for the balance of the water year (through February 28, 2008) or until further notice. The District will continue to monitor water supply conditions and modify the prorate accordingly as the water year progresses.

### Special Edition of the DEID Pipeline

**The 2007 water year has brought much to talk about. For this reason, this edition of our District newsletter is being devoted to all things water and things our growers need to know about the 2007 water year. Please review the contents of this newsletter carefully. It contains information on the 2007 water supply forecast, water rates, supply allocations, water for excess lands, and sign ups for a special pool of water.**

## SPECIAL PURCHASE POOL WATER AVAILABLE—\$115/AF

With the large 2006 water supply came an opportunity to do something that DEID had not tried before: banking surplus water in a neighboring district. Nearly 30,000 acre-feet was successfully banked during 2006 with North Kern Water Storage District.

### Portion available for 2007

A return of a portion of this banked water is being made available to DEID growers in 2007 as “special purchase” pool water. Growers that need water beyond what the District has available can sign up to purchase water from this special pool. Water purchased from the pool will be added to the individual growers’ allocated water supply.

Water from the pool is being sold at cost, which is \$115 per acre-foot. Those interested in purchasing pool water should complete the form

below and return to the District office not later than April 13, 2007. Your request must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit of \$71.00 per acre-foot ordered. The balance of the cost (\$44.00 per acre-foot) will be billed at the time of use as part of the monthly water billing.

### No Water For Excess Lands

In accordance with the approval received from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for the banking arrangement, the water returned to DEID is still considered as part of the District’s federal water supply. That means that this return water cannot be used on excess lands. Excess land is property that cannot normally receive District water due to Reclamation law restrictions.

It is doubtful whether water for excess lands can be found for 2007. Excess land owners will be advised if excess land water becomes available.

### DELANO-EARLIMART IRRIGATION DISTRICT

#### SPECIAL PURCHASE WATER POOL ORDER FORM—MUST BE RETURNED BY APRIL 13, 2007

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
street/city/zip daytime number

Acre-feet Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ X \$71.00/af deposit = \_\_\_\_\_ (must be included with this order form)

I understand that this order is a firm commitment on my part for the water quantity noted above, and that the deposit amount of \$71.00 per acre-foot is non-refundable. I further understand that the total cost of this Special Purchase Water is \$115 per acre-foot exclusive of lift charges, and that the balance of the \$115 water rate will be charged to me and paid as part of my regular monthly water statement that I receive from the District. I further acknowledge and agree that my Special Purchase Water will be considered as the first water used by me during the current water year.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print name \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a “Limited Recipient” under Reclamation Law and requesting Special Purchase Water, please contact the District office for additional terms and conditions.

## WATER TRANSFERS BETWEEN GROWERS

With a dry year looking all but assured, now is a good time to remind growers that the District is ready to help with water transfers between individuals within the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District.

Transfers among growers have a long history in the District, with interest and activity typically peaking during drought years. In dry years, growers with adequate well water may be inclined to help out a neighbor with inadequate water supplies.

The District is maintaining a list of

individuals that have notified us that they either have water available for transfer or are seeking a water transfer. Individuals may sign up at the District office.

Additional opportunities for putting parties together that are interested in a water transfer are being designed into the District's web site, which is currently being renovated.

Please refer to the District's 2007 water policy for further details regarding water transfers, or call the District office.



## 2007 WATER RATES SET

After much deliberation but with little choice to do otherwise, the District Board of Directors set the 2007 water rates at rates higher than was charged in 2006.

### **Water Rates for 2007**

Effective March 1, the Base water rate will be \$44.00 per acre-foot. Growers that are designated as "qualified recipients" under Reclamation law will have a full-cost water rate of \$71.50 per acre-foot. Those designated as "limited recipients" will be charged \$87.50 per acre foot.

The 2006 Base water rate was \$38.00 per acre-foot.

The action to raise water rates was taken following a January letter that was sent out to all water users and

landowners explaining the reasons for the proposed rate increase. That was followed by a public hearing on the matter on March 7th. The new water rates were adopted at the Board's regular March meeting as part of its deliberation of the 2007 budget for the District.

### **Lift Zone Charges Unchanged**

The Board also reviewed the rates charged for the District's 5 lift zones. It was determined that lift zone rates would remain unchanged from 2006.

Approximately two-thirds of the District receives water from gravity flow. The other one-third, basically that area that lies east of the Friant – Kern Canal, must be pumped.

Lift zones rates range from \$7.85 to \$38.70 per acre-foot.



**DEID PIPELINE**

*PROVIDING  
INFORMATION ON  
ISSUES OF  
INTEREST TO  
WATER USERS AND  
GROWERS IN THE  
DELANO-  
EARLIMART  
IRRIGATION  
DISTRICT*

**14181 Avenue 24  
Delano, CA 93215**

**Phone: 661-725-2526  
Fax: 661-725-2556**

**On the web:  
[www.deid.org](http://www.deid.org)  
Email: [deid@deid.us](mailto:deid@deid.us)**

**Be sure to  
visit our  
DEID  
Website!**

*Get the latest DEID  
news, weather  
forecasts, and helpful  
links,*

*Go to  
[www.deid.org](http://www.deid.org)*



**Special Water Supply Edition**  
*All you need to know about  
DEID's 2007 water supply!*

## TRACKING WATER USE ON THE WEB

District growers have been provided with monthly and year-to-date water use reports as part of each month's water statement for some time. Now, the District is planning on updating this information daily and making it available on the web in a secured location.

Water use information will be a part of the District's enhanced website, [www.deid.org](http://www.deid.org), that is currently under construction. Also being included is a new, easier way in which growers can use the web site to place daily water orders.

This new service should be of great assistance to growers during what is shaping up as very dry year with limited District water supplies

available.

Growers wishing to have access to their water use information will be allowed to create their own password protected access code. Grower access will be limited to their own accounts only.

This new feature is currently under construction and should be available within 30 days. Watch for a separate announcement and instructions on how you can take advantage of this valuable service in the near future

